

DETAILED ACTION

Terminal Disclaimer

1. The terminal disclaimer filed on September 10, 2009 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of 7,080,500 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Response to Amendment

2. The rejection of claims 1-9 and 12 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting is withdrawn in view of applicants' submission of a proper terminal disclaimer.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Mueller on December 15, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 5, please delete "glass fiber strand has" and substitute therefor ---glass fiber strands have---;

Claim 6, please delete "glass fiber strand has" and substitute therefor –glass fiber strands have--;

Claim 7, please delete "glass fiber strand" and substitute therefor –glass fiber strands--.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not teach or suggest the a rubber belt comprising a reinforcing cord embedded in the rubber, wherein the reinforcing cord has the specific structure as claimed, namely, a carbon fiber strand containing a layer of rubber formed on said strand and a plurality of glass fiber strands arranged around the carbon fiber strand.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jill Gray whose telephone number is 571-272-1524.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and alternate Fridays 10:00-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rena Dye can be reached on 571-272-3186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jill Gray/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1794

jmg